

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A print mechanism comprising:
  - 5 a print head assembly comprising a position detector and a marking device, said position detector comprising an imaging device for forming an image of a portion of an edge of a print medium, said print medium having a top edge, side edges, and a bottom edge;
  - 10 an actuator for moving said print head assembly relative to said print medium in a predetermined direction; and
  - 15 a controller for determining a location for said edge of said print medium from said formed image.
- 20 2. The print mechanism of Claim 1 wherein said controller determines a brightness value for said print medium from said image.
- 25 3. The print mechanism of Claim 1 wherein said controller determines a location for said top edge of said print medium from said image.
- 30 4. The print mechanism of Claim 1 wherein said controller determines if said print medium is correctly aligned in said print mechanism by comparing a plurality of edge locations measured at different distances from said top edge of said print medium.
- 25 5. A method for printing on a print medium having a top edge and side edges, said method comprising:
  - forming an image of a portion of an edge of said print medium; and
  - 30 determining a location for said imaged edge of said print medium from said image.
- 35 6. The method of Claim 5 wherein said imaged edge is one of said side edges.

7. The method of Claim 5 wherein said imaged edge is said top edge.
8. The method of Claim 5 further comprising determining a brightness measure for said print medium.

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9. The method of Claim 5 further comprising determining the alignment of said print medium in a print mechanism by comparing a plurality of images of portions of said edge of said print medium.

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10. The method of Claim 5 further comprising determining the dimensions of said print medium from a plurality of images of portions of said edge.